

MINUTES

Troup County Board of Commissioners

September 10, 2012

Troup County Government Center

Troup County Board of Commissioners Chairman Richard Wolfe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Richard Wolfe, Chairman
Buck Davis, Vice-Chairman
Morris Jones, Commissioner
Richard English, Commissioner
Ken Smith, Commissioner

News Media Present:

Matthew Strother, LaG Daily News
Trey Wood, Valley News

Staff Present:

Tod Tentler, County Manager
Jerry Willis, County Attorney
Andy Harper, GIS Technician
Cheryl May, Accounting/ Deputy Clerk
Brandon Johns, Sr Deputy Bldg Official
James Emery, County Engineer
Dexter Wells, Divisions Manager
Valerie West, Executive Assistant
Valerie Heard, Human Resources Director
Sonya Conroy, Accounting Tech/ Deputy Clerk

Others Present:

W.G. Weathers, Special Request Applicant
Carol Walston, Concerned Citizen
Ellen Smith, Attorney for AT&T & American Tower
Greg Keck, Concerned Citizen
Ed Burton, Concerned Citizen
Steve Mobley, Ham Operator
Gary Sheets, Concerned Citizen
Tommy Callaway, Concerned Citizen
Larry Daniel, Concerned Citizen
Nancy Washington, Concerned Citizen
Ruben Hairston, Concerned Citizen
Betty Bruce, Concerned Citizen
A. J. Nelson, Concerned Citizen
Kenneth Prince, Concerned Citizen
Rob Moman, Concerned Citizen
Ellen & Bill Gilmore, Concerned Citizens
David Dyer, County Consultant for cell tower
Ken Ragan, Concerned Citizen

OPENING:

Chairman Richard Wolfe welcomed all in attendance.

Invocation - Minister Frank Barnes of Bartley Road Church of Christ:

Minister Frank Barnes of Bartley Road Church of Christ was recognized by Chairman Wolfe and asked to pronounce the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Commissioner Buck Davis led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES:

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the final agenda. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner English made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2012 work session and the August 21, 2012 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Davis seconded. Unanimous.

PEOPLE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

- None.

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Consideration of request to fill two part-time seasonal positions in Parks & Recreation:

County Manager Tod Tentler requested to fill two-part time seasonal positions in Parks & Receptions. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the request to fill two part-time seasonal positions in Parks & Recreation. Commissioner English seconded. Unanimous.

Consideration of budget amendment for hazardous materials response maintenance grant: (2013-11)

County Manager Tod Tentler presented a resolution for budget amendment for hazardous materials response maintenance grant. The Fire Department has been awarded a \$10k reimbursement grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security requiring no matching funds or in-kind contribution. Commissioner English made a motion to approve resolution for budget amendment for hazardous materials response maintenance grant. Commissioner Jones seconded. Unanimous.

Consideration of Hammett Road LMIG contract with Georgia D.O.T.:

County Engineer James Emery spoke of the Hammett Road LMIG contract with Georgia D.O.T. that will require Troup County to match thirty-percent of funds. In the past under the LARP contract the funds were a 90/10 match and would cover resurfacing up to eight miles. Since the TSPLOST did not pass in the Three Rivers region, the new contract requires a 70/30 match and will cover resurfacing 11.9 miles on Hammett Road. Commissioner Davis

questioned when this would begin. Mr. Emery stated the contract would be for the next eighteen months. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Hammett Road LMIG contract with Georgia D.O.T. Commissioner Jones seconded. Unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Commissioner Davis made a motion to go into public hearings. Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous.

Rezoning:

- None.

SPECIAL USE:

(Vote Eligible)

**AT&T-Request a Permit to Construct a 105' Telecommunications Tower
Location: Vernon Ferry Road**

Sr. Deputy Building Official Brandon Johns presented a special use request to construct a 105' telecommunications tower located at Vernon Ferry Road. Mr. Johns read the timeline for the proposed tower. (See attached letter) Chairman Wolfe asked if there was anyone who would like to speak in favor of or against the telecommunications tower. A consultant for the county on cell towers, Mr. David Dyer, commented he felt the application fully complied with the appropriate conditions of the ordinance. Mr. Dyer recommended the tower height to be 115'. Mr. Dyer commented two studies by certified engineers said there would be no reason to be any interference. Ms. Ellen Smith, attorney representing on behalf of American Tower, commented the companies' application overwhelmingly complies with all requirements and recommended approval. Ms. Smith spoke of companies plan to place a "mono-pine" tower which is designated to look like a pine tree and requested the height go to 115' to accommodate the branches. Mr. A.J. Nelson and Mr. Gary Sheets also spoke in favor. Mr. Steve Mobley, Ham operator, has a system that ties into other states and the SkyWarn weather system to help local emergency services be alerted to weather threats. Mr. Mobley agreed we needed better cell phone coverage but still was concerned with the interference of his equipment. Mr. Rob Moman commented if the system is interfered with everybody would suffer. Commissioner Davis abstained from voting because his son utilizes that land. Commissioner

English made a motion to approve the cell tower application. Commissioner Jones seconded. Unanimous.

Other:

- None.

New Business:

- None.

Subdivisions:

- None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- None.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Discuss Personnel Matter and Potential Litigation:

Commissioner English made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matter and potential litigation. Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous.

MEETING REOPENED:

Following Executive Session, Commissioner Davis made a motion to reconvene in regular public meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous. Chairman Wolfe announced that during Executive Session the commissioners discussed personnel matter. Three candidates have been submitted to the West Georgia Health Board. Potential litigation was discussed but no action was taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner English made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded. Unanimous.

Richard Wolfe, Chairman

Attest: _____
G.S. Turk, Clerk